1

2   **<u>Abstract</u>**

3   A method of connecting and operating three or more devices to an IDE

4   bus under the conditions that: (1) no more than two IDE devices may be active at

5   any given time on the same IDE bus, and (2) cable/trace lengths for the IDE bus

6   may not exceed the limits set forth in the IDE bus standard.   The IDE devices

7   are configured for cable select connected to the IDE bus, wherein no more than

8   two of the IDE devices are powered on at any given. Further, those IDE devices

9   which are powered on at a give time, have the appropriate logic level asserted on

10   CSEL line so that only one IDE device powered on at any time is a "Master"

11   device, and only one IDE device powered on is a "Slave".